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Patrice Butler Selected to Represent Sun Belt Conference at Student-Athlete Leadership Forum

Student-Athlete Leadership Forum to be held in Phoenix, Az. April 7-10

Kristina Horsley



Women's Basketball | 1/27/2016 3:52:00 PM

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STATESBORO, Ga. —Junior women's basketball player [Patrice Butler](#) has been selected as the Sun Belt Conference's female representative for the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum in Phoenix, AZ.

The Student-Athlete Leadership Forum gives student-athletes and coaches from across the country the opportunity to gather together and learn leadership skills they can take back to their respective campuses. Butler was nominated to represent Georgia Southern and the Sun Belt Conference by [Peaches Nesmith](#), her academic advisor, and [Reggie Simpkins](#), Director of Student-Athlete Services, for her positive influence on the campus and within the local community. Butler, who aspires to one day be a collegiate basketball coach, is most looking forward to the opportunity to "network with other coaches that are going to be there and see the different things they do with their teams."

"[Patrice] expresses great desire and passion to become a leader," Nesmith said. "She clearly understands what she wants to accomplish in her life and knows what steps she needs to take in order to reach her end goal. I feel strongly that she will excel and learn a lot at the Student-Athlete Leadership Forum." In her time at Georgia Southern, Butler has excelled both on the court as well as in the classroom, earning a 3.48 grade point average while majoring in Exercise Science and she was named to the 2013-14 Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll. She is also the Big Little Coordinator of Sigma Alpha Pi: National Society of Leadership and Success and was the 6-year old Girls' Head Basketball Coach at the Boys and Girls Club last spring, along with other endeavors. On the basketball court, Butler is the second-leading scorer for the Eagle women, averaging 12.2 points per game to go along with 5.7 rebounds while shooting 42.6% from the field.